CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, **BC** 20515-4320

November 24, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communication Commission 8-B201 445 12th Street SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write to respectfully request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) provide timely consideration of the proposed merger application of CenturyLink and Qwest Communications filed on May 10, 2010.

CenturyLink and Owest Communications have invested significantly in their broadband and voice networks, which under the proposed merger would benefit consumers in rural America who often have fewer options. I am encouraged that the merger would allow for additional improvements in broadband infrastructure in these underserved communities and thus, improve economic development opportunities. Furthermore, the merger would be implemented without any new debt or financing, which I believe places the combined entity on a financially sound path.

As you know, the merger has received approval from the Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission as well as 12 states and the District of Columbia. Hence, your timely review of the CenturyLink and Owest Communications merger is much appreciated.

Sincerely

Member of Congress

CAG: bm

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON

December 13, 2010

The Honorable Charles A. Gonzalez U.S. House of Representatives 303 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gonzalez:

Thank you for your letter supporting the proposed transfer of control between CenturyLink and Qwest. I value your perspective on the potential benefits of this transaction and I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Many of the issues associated with this transaction – investment in broadband infrastructure, extending broadband to rural areas, and job creation – are among my highest priorities as Chairman. The Commission takes seriously its evaluation of transfer of control applications; and you can be assured that it will consider these issues as part of its careful and deliberate review of this proposed transfer.

Your letter will be included in the record of this proceeding. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Julius Genachowski

Sincerely.